

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application and entry of the foregoing amendments are respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

The redrafting of claims 79 and 81 as independent claims moots the Examiner's objections thereto.

35 USC 112

Claims 79 and 81 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Claims 79 and 81 are drawn respectively to polynucleotides that have at least 600 or 300 contiguous nucleotides, respectively, of a sequence that encodes SEQ ID NO:1. There is no requirement that the claimed polynucleotides themselves encode SEQ ID NO:1, merely that they have a minimum number of contiguous nucleotides from a sequence that does encode SEQ ID NO:1. This definition is entirely clear and meets the requirements of 35 USC 112.

The term 'about' has been removed from claims 79 and 81, thereby addressing any difficulties raised by this term.

Claim 82 has been amended in accordance with the Examiners suggestion thereby addressing the Examiner's concerns relating to antecedent basis.

Reconsideration is requested.

SCHULZE-LEFERT et al
Appl. No. 09/722,377
September 2, 2003

This application is submitted to be in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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